

Claims

1. A fuel cell stack comprising:
 - a plurality of contiguous fuel cells compressed between pressure plates by tie rods;
 - at least one pair of manifolds for directing at least reactant gas into and out of said fuel cells, said at least one pair of manifolds being disposed on opposite sides of said fuel cell stack, said manifolds being held in gas sealing relationship to the edges of said fuel cells and said pressure plates by means of seal materials and load cables under tension;
 - at least one pin disposed in the end of each of said manifolds, said pins extending outwardly from the end surface of the corresponding manifold; and
 - a cable extending in a closed loop about said pins, said cable under tension, thereby drawing the pins and therefore the manifolds toward each other, whereby to overcome gas leakage through the seals at the interface of the manifolds with the pressure plates.
2. A fuel cell stack according to claim 1 wherein said cables have two ends which are drawn together by a tensioning turnbuckle.
3. A fuel cell stack according to claim 1 wherein there are two pins disposed in each end of each of said pair of manifolds, and one of said cables extends about four pins on each end of said stack.